GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2557
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2017
Pension to Freedom Fighters
Kumar Shri Ashwini;Sahu Shri Tamradhwaj

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters and their dependents who are receiving pension under the Central Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme along with the details of facilities and amount of pension granted to them separately, State-wise;

(b): whether the Government has any proposal to increase the pension of such persons and if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be increased;

(c): whether any revision Commission has been set up in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(d): whether the Government has issued any guidelines to the States to send the names of freedom fighters to consider for felicitation at felicitation ceremony organized every year on 9th August at Rashtrapati Bhavan so as to send invitation letters for the same; and

(e): if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) State-wise total number of freedom fighters and their dependents receiving pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980 (renamed as Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana) is at Annexure-I. The details of benefits/facilities and amount of pension granted to the freedom fighters and their eligible dependents are as per Annexure-II and Annexure-III respectively. The amount of central freedom fighter pension is uniform for freedom fighters of all the States/UTs.

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(b) & (c): The central freedom fighter pension/family pension has already been revised and increased recently by the Central Government with effect from 15.08.2016. Dearness Allowance/Relief as given to the Central Government employees/pensioners twice a year, has been made applicable to the central freedom fighter pensioners also.

(d) & (e) No standing guidelines have been issued by the Government to the States/UTs to send the names of freedom fighters to consider them for felicitation at felicitation ceremony organized every year on 9th August at Rashtrapati Bhavan. However, letters are sent to the States/UTs every year seeking nominations/names of freedom fighters for felicitation in the 'At Home' function organized by the President's Secretariat on 9th August every year. Name of only those freedom fighters are sought who are in receipt of central freedom fighter pension under Swatantrata Sainik Samman Yojana. Name of one nodal officer from each State/UT and one escort/companion for each nominated freedom fighter, is also sought for attending the function.

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